

THE WMUR / UNH NEW HAMPSHIRE ELECTION POLL

THE UNIVERSITY OF NEW HAMPSHIRE SURVEY CENTER

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NH CONGRESSIONAL RACES CLOSE IN FINAL DAYS

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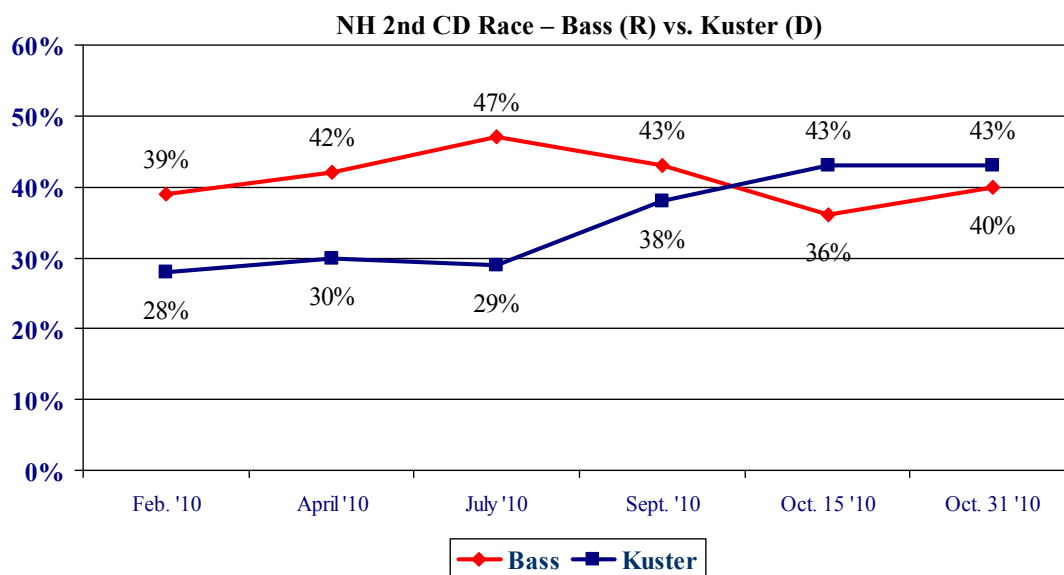
DURHAM, NH – Democrat Ann McLane Kuster and Republican Charlie Bass are locked in a very tight race for New Hampshire's Second Congressional District seat. The First C.D. race has also tightened with Republican Frank Guinta holding a modest, but not insurmountable, lead over incumbent Carol Shea-Porter.

These findings are based on the latest **WMUR / UNH New Hampshire Election Poll**,* conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center. Eight hundred eighty-five (885) randomly selected New Hampshire likely voters were interviewed by telephone between October 27 and October 31, 2010. The margin of sampling error for the state-wide likely voter sample is +/- 3.3%. Included was a subsample of 434 likely voters in the NH First Congressional District (margin of sampling error +/-4.7%), and a subsample of 451 Second Congressional District likely voters (margin of sampling error +/-4.6%).

2nd Congressional District

Democrat Ann McLane Kuster holds a narrow lead over Republican Charlie Bass in the Second Congressional District. Bass, the better known candidate, had led throughout much of the past year, but was overtaken by Kuster in October. The race has narrowed since then with 43% of likely Second C.D. voters saying they will vote for Kuster, 40% for Bass, 3% prefer Libertarian Howard Wilson, 2% favor independent Tim Van Blommestein, 1% prefer some other candidate, and 11% remain undecided.

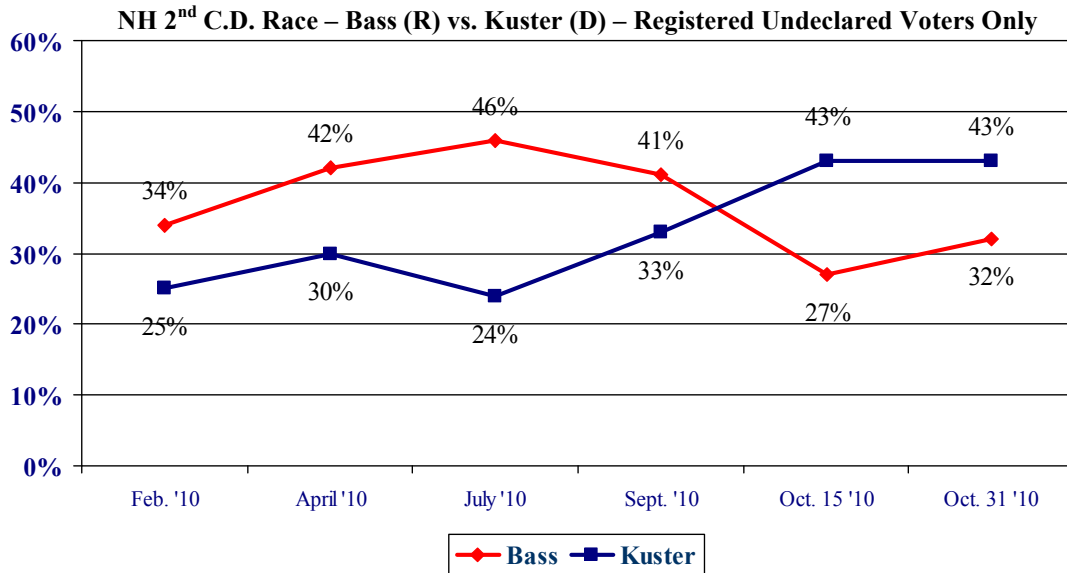
When undecided voters are allocated to the candidate they are most likely to vote for, support for Kuster increases to 47%, Bass gets 46%, and other candidates get 7%. "This race is too close to call and the vote that ends up going to third party candidates could be the deciding factor in who wins the Second C.D.," said Andrew E. Smith, Director of the UNH Survey Center.



* We ask that this copyrighted information be referred to as *the WMUR / UNH New Hampshire Election Poll*, sponsored by WMUR-TV, and conducted by the University of New Hampshire Survey Center.

Kuster gets her strongest support from Democrats women, voters with post-graduate educations, and voters from Merrimack County and the Connecticut River valley. Bass receives his strongest support from Republicans, voters who are excited about the election outcomes, voters who are extremely interested in the election, and voters living in towns along the Massachusetts border.

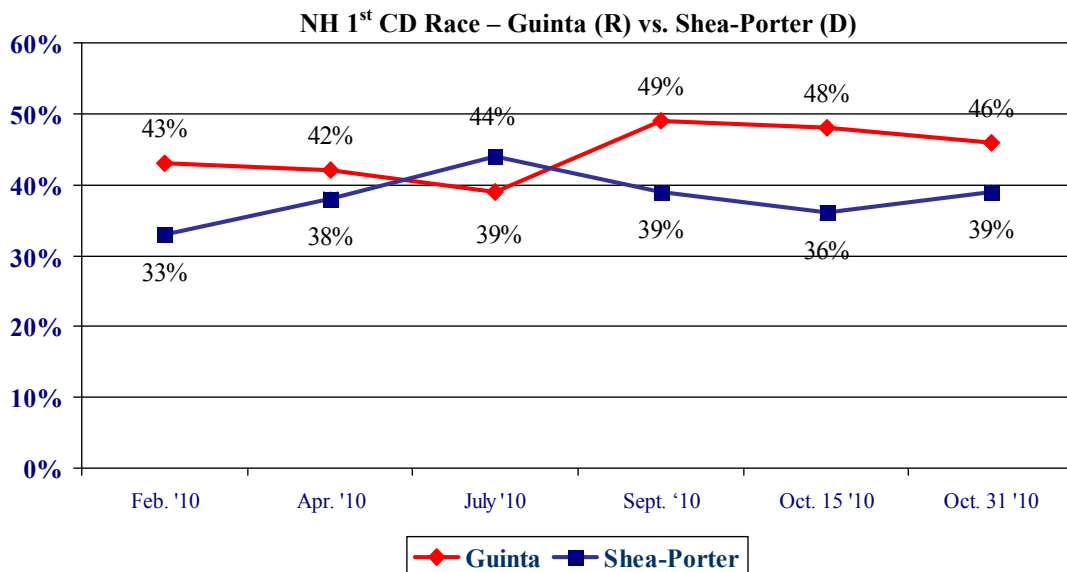
Kuster continues to lead among voters who are registered Undeclared, often referred to as Independents. Currently, 43% of Undeclared voters support Kuster, 32% prefer Bass, 12% support some other candidate, and 13% are undecided.



1st Congressional District

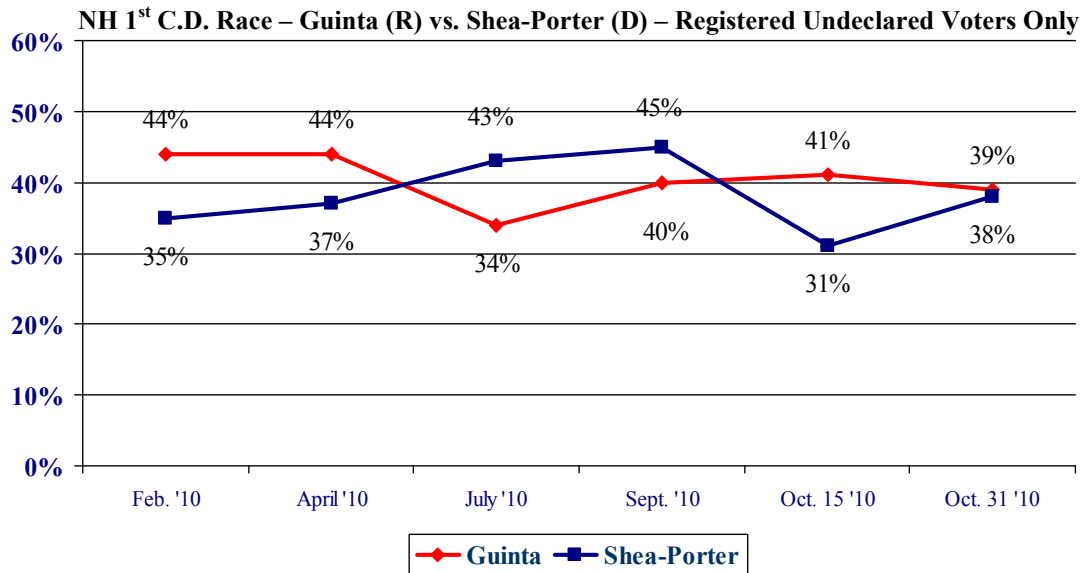
In New Hampshire's First Congressional District, incumbent Democrat Carol Shea-Porter has narrowed the race during the past two weeks, but still trails former Manchester Mayor Frank Guinta. Currently, 46% of likely First C.D. voters say they will vote for Guinta, 39% say they will vote for Shea-Porter, 2% support Libertarian Philip Hodson, 2% prefer independent Mark Whitman, Jr., less than 1% prefer some other candidate, and 12% are undecided.

When undecided voters are allocated to the candidate they are most likely to vote for, support for Guinta moves up to 53%, Shea-Porter gets 43%, and other candidates get the remaining 4%. "Research has shown that undecided voters typically break to the challenger in races where there is an incumbent," said Smith.



Republicans continue to be more enthusiastic about this election than are Democrats. Among voters who say they are extremely interested in the election, Guinta holds a 51% to 37% lead. Guinta holds a whopping 63% to 23% lead among voters who say they are excited about the outcome of the elections, a further indication that Republicans are very optimistic going into Tuesday's election. And among voters who say they will definitely vote in the election Guinta holds a 49% to 38% lead over Shea-Porter.

Undeclared voters have shifted their support several times during the campaign, and currently split their support between Guinta and Shea-Porter. Currently, 39% of voters registered undeclared say they will vote for Guinta, 38% support Shea-Porter, 7% prefer some other candidate, and 21% are undecided.



Guinta gets his strongest support from Republicans, voters who are excited about the prospects of the November election, men, and residents of the Manchester area. Shea-Porter gets her strongest support from Democrats, voters who are depressed about the November elections, voters with post-graduate educations, and residents of the northern parts of the District.

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US House First Congressional District – Guinta vs. Shea-Porter

“Let’s turn to the November election for the U.S. House of Representatives from the FIRST DISTRICT. Will you vote for Frank Guinta, the Republican ... Carol Shea-Porter, the Democrat ... Philip Hodson, the Libertarian, Mark Whitman, Jr., the Independent ... or haven’t you decided yet?”* ROTATE CANDIDATES

	<u>Feb. '10</u>	<u>Apr. '10</u>	<u>July '10</u>	<u>Sept. '10</u>	<u>Oct. 15 '10</u>	<u>Oct. 31 '10</u>	<u>Final Prediction</u>
Guinta	43%	42%	39%	49%	48%	46%	53%
Shea-Porter	33%	38%	44%	39%	36%	39%	43%
Hodson	-	-	-	-	2%	2%	2%
Whitman	-	-	-	-	2%	2%	2%
Other	2%	1%	1%	3%	1%	*	
Don't know / undecided	22%	19%	16%	9%	11%	12%	
(N=)	(168)	(225)	(238)	(237)	(339)	(422)	

*Hodson and Whitman not included in earlier surveys.

US House Second Congressional District – Bass vs. Kuster

“Let’s turn to the November election for the U.S. House of Representatives from the SECOND DISTRICT. Will you vote for Charlie Bass, the Republican ... Ann McLane Kuster, the Democrat ... Howard Wilson, the Libertarian ... Tim Van Blommestein, the Independent ... or haven’t you decided yet?”* ROTATE CANDIDATES

	<u>Feb. '10</u>	<u>Apr. '10</u>	<u>July '10</u>	<u>Sept. '10</u>	<u>Oct. 15 '10</u>	<u>Oct. 31 '10</u>	<u>Final Prediction</u>
Bass	39%	42%	47%	43%	36%	40%	46%
Kuster	28%	30%	29%	38%	43%	43%	47%
Wilson	-	-	-	-	3%	3%	3%
Van Blommestein	-	-	-	-	1%	2%	2%
Other	1%	1%	1%	3%	1%	1%	1%
Don't know / undecided	32%	27%	23%	16%	16%	11%	
(N=)	(174)	(231)	(197)	(220)	(363)	(438)	

*Wilson and Van Blommestein not included in earlier surveys.

US House – Frank Guinta vs. Carol Shea-Porter – Likely Voters

1ST CONGRESSIONAL DIST.	<u>Guinta</u> 46%	<u>Shea-Porter</u> 39%	<u>Other</u> 4%	<u>DK</u> 12%	<u>(N)</u> 422
Registered Democrat	10%	81%	0%	8%	126
Registered Undeclared	39%	38%	9%	13%	141
Registered Republican	80%	4%	2%	13%	154
Democrat	11%	80%	1%	8%	167
Independent	44%	34%	1%	21%	53
Republican	75%	6%	7%	12%	199
Core Republican	84%	2%	4%	10%	181
Swing Voter	42%	26%	9%	23%	89
Core Democrat	2%	90%	0%	8%	151
Excited about election outcome	63%	23%	3%	11%	245
Depressed about election outcome	17%	67%	4%	12%	106
Neutral/Don't Know	28%	54%	7%	11%	69
Extremely interested in election	51%	37%	3%	9%	214
Very interested	42%	41%	5%	11%	159
Somewhat/Not very interested	35%	40%	3%	22%	47
Definitely will vote	49%	38%	4%	10%	353
Will vote unless emergency	30%	43%	5%	22%	69
Male	55%	31%	5%	9%	212
Female	36%	47%	2%	15%	210
18 to 34	38%	40%	12%	10%	36
35 to 49	41%	39%	3%	16%	107
50 to 64	45%	44%	3%	7%	168
65 and over	52%	30%	3%	15%	108
High school or less	38%	30%	3%	29%	67
Some college	50%	34%	4%	12%	99
College graduate	52%	36%	5%	7%	153
Post-graduate	38%	54%	2%	7%	100
North Country	36%	52%	4%	8%	33
Central / Lakes	32%	39%	7%	21%	37
Mass Border	49%	34%	5%	12%	88
Seacoast	44%	42%	3%	10%	148
Manchester Area	52%	33%	3%	12%	116
1st E.C. District	38%	44%	5%	14%	53
2nd E.C. District	37%	38%	3%	21%	43
3rd E.C. District	43%	44%	5%	8%	151
4th E.C. District	54%	33%	2%	10%	131
5th E.C. District	46%	33%	5%	17%	44

US House – Charlie Bass vs. Ann McLane Kuster – Likely Voters

2ND CONGRESSIONAL DIST.	<u>Bass</u> 40%	<u>Kuster</u> 43%	<u>Other</u> 7%	<u>DK</u> 11%	<u>(N)</u> 438
Registered Democrat	9%	81%	1%	8%	123
Registered Undeclared	32%	43%	12%	13%	168
Registered Republican	75%	9%	6%	10%	144
Democrat	7%	81%	5%	7%	194
Independent	37%	33%	11%	19%	60
Republican	76%	5%	8%	11%	178
Core Republican	84%	2%	6%	9%	159
Swing Voter	34%	29%	15%	21%	107
Core Democrat	2%	89%	3%	6%	171
Excited about election outcome	57%	28%	8%	8%	255
Depressed about election outcome	13%	70%	6%	11%	115
Neutral/Don't Know	19%	51%	6%	23%	66
Extremely interested in election	49%	38%	7%	7%	205
Very interested	36%	47%	5%	12%	168
Somewhat/Not very interested	22%	48%	13%	17%	64
Definitely will vote	41%	42%	7%	10%	365
Will vote unless emergency	32%	44%	9%	15%	72
Male	44%	36%	9%	11%	216
Female	36%	49%	5%	10%	222
18 to 34	53%	29%	6%	12%	32
35 to 49	38%	35%	11%	16%	102
50 to 64	36%	48%	9%	8%	182
65 and over	44%	44%	1%	11%	115
High school or less	45%	37%	4%	15%	78
Some college	39%	40%	9%	12%	89
College graduate	41%	41%	9%	10%	162
Post-graduate	35%	52%	6%	8%	108
North Country	48%	33%	9%	9%	45
Central / Lakes	27%	56%	10%	7%	101
Connecticut Valley	34%	52%	5%	9%	115
Mass Border	52%	29%	5%	14%	152
Manchester Area	27%	44%	15%	14%	24
1st E.C. District	40%	46%	5%	8%	110
2nd E.C. District	27%	55%	10%	8%	123
3rd E.C. District	59%	21%	3%	18%	38
4th E.C. District	37%	15%	21%	27%	12
5th E.C. District	45%	38%	6%	12%	154